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[R-63-6786

**MEMORANDUM FOR: Special Assistant to the President for
National Security Affairs**

**SUBJECT: CIA Organization for Scientific and
Technical Intelligence**

1. In an endeavor to strengthen the scientific and technical capabilities of the Agency we established in the summer of 1962 a Directorate of Research, details of which were given you in my reply of 13 April 1963. This Directorate consisted of three components, having responsibilities, respectively, for overhead reconnaissance, electronic intelligence, and research and development in the scientific and technical fields.

2. While this represented an initial worthwhile step, experience in working with this Directorate of Research disclosed certain deficiencies. Its scope of activity was not sufficiently broad to encompass the entire spectrum of scientific and technical intelligence. Because of its limited scope, personnel and ideas were inhibited in free movement in the field of technical intelligence. Lastly, it failed to offer a sufficient challenge and attractiveness, because of its limitations, to the highly qualified scientific personnel we are endeavoring to recruit.

3. To correct these deficiencies, a Directorate of Science and Technology was established on 5 August 1963, replacing the former Research Directorate. It inherited the three operating components of the Research Directorate plus the Office of Scientific Intelligence and the Agency's most advanced and sophisticated computer facilities, now organized as the Office of Computer Services. I appointed Dr. Albert Wheelon, an outstanding young theoretical physicist, as the Agency's Deputy Director for Science and Technology.

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Dr. Wheelon came to CIA in the summer of 1962 from Space Technology Laboratories to serve as the Assistant Director for Scientific Intelligence. I believe we have now created a complete and inclusive scientific and technical organizational unit, allowing for the greatest degree of cross-fertilization of the various scientific disciplines. The matter of insuring the most complete and appropriate marshalling of the Agency's competencies in this field will be kept under continuing review.

4. I have also established a new Scientific Advisory Board, under the Chairmanship of [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] This Board will review the total scientific functions of the entire Agency and give me the benefit of their findings and advice.

5. These developments represent the most significant advances we have taken organizationally in the field of science and technology since my last report to you. We are endeavoring to implement your thoughtful recommendations, and to continue to perfect our structure for this most important aspect of our responsibilities.

John A. McCone
Director

cc: President's Foreign Intelligence
Advisory Board

Signature Recommended:

Signed: [REDACTED]

Date 9 SEP 1963

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DD/S&T: [REDACTED] 6561:bb

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9 September 1963

MEMORANDUM OF RECORD

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1. [REDACTED] requested on 9 September that the previously written five page memorandum for the Presidential Board for Foreign Intelligence Activities on "CIA Organization for Scientific and Technical Intelligence" be rewritten immediately and not to exceed a page and a half.

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2. Attached is the page and a half write-up which has been given to and accepted by [REDACTED]

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Reference
Action Memo 263
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